

Torrance Man Wins Silver Star in Viet Nam

Torrance Press-Herald

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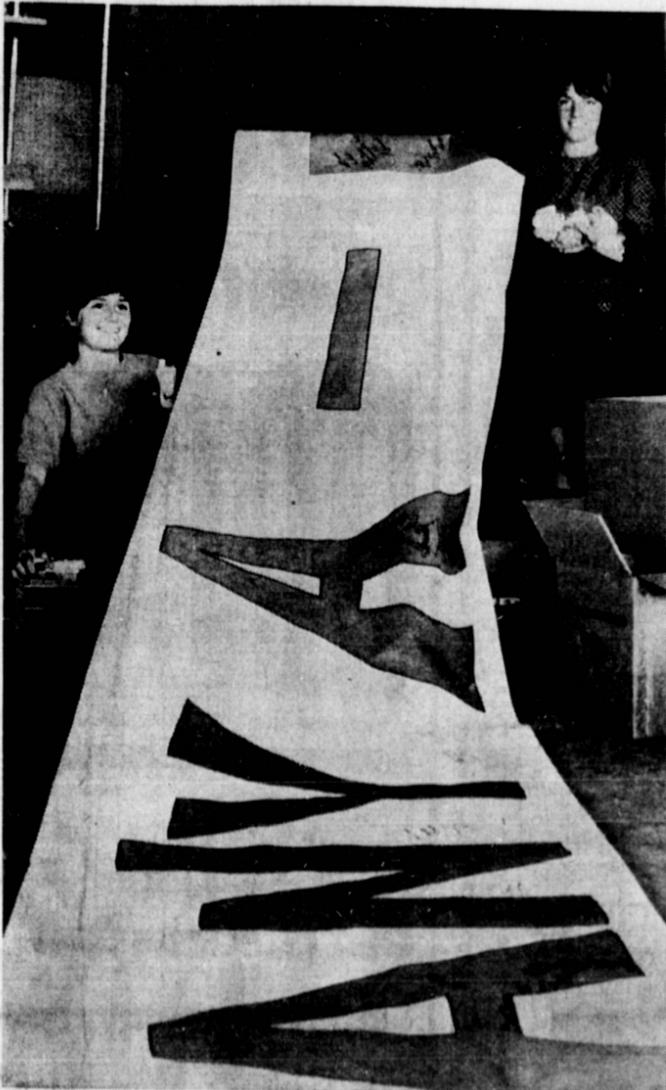
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OPERATION HELLO . . . Patti Raso and Terese Ryan, students at Bishop Montgomery High School, package gifts for Company A, a unit of the 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division. The gifts, ranging from soap to socks and from candy to toothpaste, will be flown to Viet Nam by Continental Air Lines. The boxes will be accompanied by a 60-foot banner signed by virtually all of the 1,300 students at Montgomery. (Press-Herald Photo)

Giant Greeting Card On Way to Viet Nam

One of the biggest Christmas cards in the world, signed by nearly 1,300 persons, will be delivered to a company of the First Cavalry in South Viet Nam just before Christmas.

Along with the "card" will go several tons of gifts, ranging from soap and socks to candy and gum, collected by students at Bishop Montgomery High School.

The "card" is a sign, painted by Connie Garcia and signed by virtually every student at Montgomery. It's 60 feet long, 2 feet high, and reads, "Company A — Hello from Bishop Montgomery."

Company A is an airborne unit of the 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division Air Mobile. The men of Company A will spend their Christmas, 1965, in Viet Nam and some, no doubt, will never see the sign now being packed for shipment with the candy, socks, soap, razor blades, and books.

Debbie Rogers of Montgomery started the big drive

ON COMMISSION
 Armand Berges of 22930B Nadine Circle was appointed to the Torrance Airport Commission last night. Berges was nominated by Councilman J. A. Beasley.

at the school — "Operation Hello." She enlisted the help of Father Aloysius, vice principal, and got the Montgomery student council to support the drive.

The school was divided into groups and the collection begun. Senior girls brought toothpaste, toothbrushes, and soap, while senior boys brought razor blades and candles.

Candy and gum were collected by the junior girls. Junior boys supplied flashlight batteries and socks.

More than 1,000 paperback books — and none are war stories — were collected by the sophomore girls. Tee shirts were collected by boys in the sophomore class.

Freshmen got to work collecting playing cards, pens, pencils, and stationery.

Everything is now being packed into boxes and readied for shipment just before Christmas. Another Montgomery student, Cathy Martina, enlisted the help of her father, who is employed by Continental Air Lines.

The air line will fly the boxes to Viet Nam in time for Christmas.

It took less than two weeks for the students to assemble all their gifts, but they are likely to be remembered for many years to come.

WAYNE CAMBRA WINS JUNIOR DEALER HONOR

Wayne Cambra, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Cambra of 2922 W. 227th St., has been declared winner of the Press-Herald's "Carrier of the Month" award for November.

Darrell Wescott, Press-Herald circulation manager, said Cambra won a deluxe six-transistor radio set for his work as a junior dealer.

"Wayne always presents a neat appearance and a winning smile, an essential element in any business," Wescott said. "His customer list is growing and he is making friends and money at the same time."

Young Cambra enjoys playing baseball and has played Little League baseball for several years.



WAYNE CAMBRA Wins Carrier Prize

APPOINTED TO POST
 Architect William Burchfield of 24017 Huber Ave. was appointed to the Torrance City Beautiful Commission last night on nomination of Councilman J. A. Beasley.

Investment income for the city during fiscal 1964-65 totaled \$144,387, he added.

Beach Front High-Rise Approved By Redondo

Council Votes 6-1 to Repeal Rest Home Ban

A two-week old prohibition on the construction of convalescent hospitals in C-3 zones throughout Torrance was repealed last night by the City Council.

The building moratorium, enacted as an emergency measure by the council when

doctors who own a building at 4305 Torrance Blvd. protested the proposed construction of a convalescent hospital next door, was lifted by a 6-1 vote of the council, although two votes were "reluctant yes" votes.

The doctors, according to Dr. Robert Chandler, wanted to purchase the property for expansion of their own medical complex. The two-week moratorium was enacted by the council to permit some negotiation between the doctors and owners of the adjacent property.

Interest Rate Hike Help City

The impact of Sunday's prime interest rate increase by the Federal Reserve Board will result in substantial investment income for Torrance taxpayers, City Treasurer Thomas C. Rupert said today.

Rupert said the one-half of 1 per cent increase in the Federal Reserve System discount interest rate will result in an \$11,000 increase in revenue for the city for the period which ends June 30, 1966.

ATTORNEY Donald Hitchcock, representing a six-man partnership which proposes to build the convalescent hospital, told the council, "There is no negotiation."

Hitchcock said the property owners had received one offer and had made a counter offer, but has not received any further response.

"We do not wish to prolong this," Hitchcock said, "we wish to build."

Dr. Chandler said his group had made two offers on the property and has gone into escrow on three other adjoining parcels. "Our prime concern," he said, "is that we do not want a convalescent hospital on Torrance Boulevard."

HE THEN asked the council to delay action on repeal of the building moratorium to permit a committee to study the whole question of the development of Torrance Boulevard.

Councilman J. A. Beasley, who cast the lone vote against repeal of the moratorium, said he hadn't changed his opinion in the two week period. Beasley contended Torrance Boulevard is no place for a convalescent hospital.

Vote Ends Pay Talk For Board

Should Torrance school board members be paid for their jobs?

Trustees answered that question with a "No" Monday evening when they turned down a suggestion by Trustee Bert M. Lynn that voters be asked to authorize a token \$100 per month salary for board members.

But even Lynn didn't really want to be paid.

"Let me make my position clear," Lynn said. "I am so against the councilmanic increase — everyone thinks the taxpayers of this town are loaded — I'd like to show them we'd be willing to work for \$100."

"I want to see if the taxpayers are as flush as the council says they are," Lynn added.

"Will schools be better off if the school board is paid?" asked William J. Hanson.

"I doubt it," Lynn replied.

Former trustees Albert Charles supported Lynn's suggestion, but suggested the trustees seek a salary of \$500 per month. Charles contended such a request from the school board would "scuttle everything."

Board members were unanimous in their opposition to the proposed council pay hike, which voters will be asked to approve next April, and none of the trustees actually favored paying school board members.

"I would hope we can get the message across town without having to put this on the ballot," Dr. Donald Wilson said. "This idea of doing everything for money destroys initiative and quality."

Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts, president of the board, also opposed the idea of school board salaries. "This is not time to be playing around with pay," Mrs. Watts commented, recalling the district has a \$12.5 million bond issue before the voters. She said she saw no use in "asking for something when we don't want it."

Action Clears Way for Area's First 'Tower'

A debate which has spanned two years and involved residents of the Riviera section of Torrance, two city councils, and a developer was ended in Redondo Beach Monday.

Redondo Beach City Councilmen, by a 3-2 vote, approved plans for a \$7 million 20-story high-rise apartment development to be located on the site of the old Hollywood Riviera Club. The action apparently clears the decks for final planning and construction of the first major high-rise building in the Southwest area.

The building is the same one — with four more floors — which Torrance councilmen turned down Aug. 11, 1964. It will be located on the Redondo Beach portion of a bi-city site at 1807 Esplanade.

Sovereign Development Co., which worked a trade of beach property with the County of Los Angeles to acquire sufficient land in Redondo Beach for the structure, is the developer of the complex.

Councilmen David Hayward, Donald T. Ballard, and Rodney Nielsen voted in favor of the proposal. Opposing votes were cast by J. O. "Lee" Soloman and Edward Greene.

Soloman contended the beach front high-rise developments in Hawaii and Miami Beach "have ruined the view" and added, "they would never do it again."

Opposition also was voiced by Stanley Dunn, representing the Riviera Homeowners Association. The homeowners group has fought the high-rise development from its inception.

Ballard described Redondo Beach as a "progressive town" and added, "I think if a man comes into our town and is willing to spend the money for a 20-story building, it's our duty to approve."

Hayward said the beach

Gallantry In Action Rewarded

Pfc. Michael J. Hand, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hand, 24240 Neece Ave., has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action at Dong Xoai, Viet Nam.

The soldier was serving as a U. S. Army Special Forces radio operator when the village and military compound in which he was serving was attacked by the Viet Cong. Immediately, the Special Forces trooper manned his defensive position, and, when the compound was overrun, he joined the remaining team members to defend the District Headquarters building.

Pfc. Hand acted as a live target so his comrades could locate and destroy the snipers firing at him. Seeing a wounded team member, he again exposed himself to the hostile fire as he rescued the man.

Hand is a member of the U. S. Army's Detachment A-342, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces.

To Catch a Thief Is Hard Job for Police

Theft or a form of theft is involved in 68 per cent of all crime and the resulting loss is "astronomical," a Torrance police officer told the Torrance Safety Council Monday.

Officer Darrell Lanham also told the Safety Council that very little of the stolen property is recovered and the thief is the most difficult of all lawbreakers to apprehend.

"The successful thief is rarely or never seen," Lanham said.

Most people, he noted, leave themselves exposed to theft through carelessness or forgetfulness. Doors and windows should be locked when no one is home, he said, and the home should be left in a "lived-in" condition when the family takes a long holiday or its annual vacation.

HE WARNED many thieves will pose as salesmen to get inside a home, look around, and determine if it's worth breaking into. And in many instances, the thief doesn't have to break in, he simply walks through an unlocked door or opens an unlocked window.

But the greatest folly is committed by the housewife, or the husband, who leaves a note on the door for the utility man, Lanham said. That note, usually reading "The key is under the mat," is an open invitation to a thief.

Auto theft, too, is increasing, Lanham said. Since the beginning of the year, 479 cars have been stolen in Torrance. Police have found 82 of the stolen autos stripped

of every part, and 12 have never been recovered.

AGAIN, the officer said too many people make it too easy for the thief. Car doors are unlocked and frequently keys are left in the ignition.

Auto theft involves three kinds of thieves, Lanham said. They include the thief after petty things, the thief who wants things of value and the thief who is after the car itself.

All can be discouraged by removing keys and locking doors, Lanham explained. Packages and their things of value should be locked in the trunk, not displayed on the back seat, he warned.

"Let's turn the tables," the officer, concluded, "and see how inconvenient we can make it for the thief."

Chairman Re-Elected . . .

Chairman Burton W. Chace, who has served 12 years on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, yesterday was re-elected chairman of that board for 1966. Chace, 65, said the theme of supervisors for the new year should be "economy and efficiency." A former mayor of Long Beach, he was appointed to the board in 1953 by Governor Earl Warren and elected to a full term the following year.

Isen to Seek New Term . . .

Torrance Mayor Albert Isen served notice he will be a candidate for re-election last night. The mayor made his announcement at a dinner honoring the city's press corps following the City Council session. Isen was first elected to the City Council in 1945 and served three years as mayor under the rotating mayor system. He was elected mayor in 1958 after the city charter was amended to provide for the election of a mayor and re-elected in 1962.

Bike Bandit Identified . . .

Sheriff's deputies have taken into custody a 14-year-old Carson boy believed to be the one who robbed a dairy attendant of more than \$100 a week ago. Officers of the Firestone Sheriff's station have reported the identification of the suspect through photographs shown to Danny York, the victim of the holdup. The gun, a realistic toy, was found as was most of the stolen money, officers said.